

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07932 171404Z
ACTION EUR-12

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UNCLAS MOSCOW 07932

FOR: EU

STATE FOR EUR/SOV

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PROP, OGEN, UR
SUBJECT: TASS ATTACK AGAINST INTERNATIONAL MEDIA POOL
PROPOSAL

1. IN ARTICLE ENTITLED "ONE MORE IDEOLOGICAL DIVERSION"
PUBLISHED IN APRIL 13 ISSUE OF IZVESTIYA, TASS COMMENTATOR
O. ANICHKIN DENOUNCED CONFERENCE OF MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES
FROM WESTERN AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH MET LAST WEEK
IN CAIRO TO DISCUSS PERSPECTIVES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF
JOINT INTERNATIONAL NEWS POOL. HE SEES CONFERENCE AS
FLAGRANT ATTEMPT TO WEAKEN FLEDGLING NON-ALIGNED NEWS
AGENCIES AND TO IMPOSE CAPITALIST IDEOLOGY ON THRID
WORLD. ANICHKIN CALLS ATTENTION TO FACT THAT CON-
FERENCE WAS AMERICAN-FINANCED AND THAT OVER HALF THOSE
PRESENT WERE FROM UNITED STATES. THEY INCLUDED NOT ONLY
DELEGATES FROM MAJOR AMERICAN NEWS ORGANIZATIONS, AMONG
THEM AP, UPI, TIMES, NEWSWEEK, AND THE NEW YORK TIMES, BUT
ALSO THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL ADVISOR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS,
BARRY JAGODA. COMMENTATOR ASSERTS THAT ALTHOUGH OSTEN-
SIBLY DESIGNED TO ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH ARE
PURPORTEDLY "WEAK AND HAVE ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE" IN AREA
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OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, NEW POOL, GUIDED BY DI-
RECTORATE COMPOSED OF MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND FROM THE U.S. AND OTHER CAPITAL-
IST STATES, WOULD BE DEPENDENT ON WEST FOR FINANCING AND
IN DIRECT COMPETITION WITH ALREADY EXISTING POOL OF THIRD
WORLD INFORMATION AGENCIES. AT ONE POINT ANICHKIN SINGLES
OUT EGYPT AND ITS NEWS AGENCY FOR SPECIAL BLAME AS U.S.

"FRONT" AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND FOR CONDUCTING ITSELF PROVOCATIVELY AGAINST NON-ALIGNED NEWS AGENCY POOL. HE CONCLUDES WITH ASSERTION THAT "REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES RECOGNIZE THE PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A 'MULTI-NATIONAL INFORMATION POOL' AS AN ATTEMPT BY THE U.S. TO PRESERVE INTO THE FUTURE THE ASCENDENCY OF WESTERN PRESS ORGANS IN THE PREPARATION AND DISSEMINATION OF NEWS PLEASING TO THEM".

2. COMMENT. SOVIET ATTACKS AGAINST PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL POOL REFLECT DEEP-ROOTED CONCERN OVER QUESTION OF IDEOLOGICAL COMPETITION IN DEVELOPING WORLD AND ARE RELATED TO EVEN MORE FUNDAMENTAL FEAR OF UNRESTRICTED FLOW OF INFORMATION ACROSS NATIONAL BORDERS, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE U.S.S.R. ITSELF. TOON

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Message Attributes

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